Filling up of vacancies of Judges in High Courts

1054. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to the Starred Question 21 given in Rajya Sabha on 25th July, 2000 and state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to fill up the vacancies of Judges as per the sanctioned strength and the 27 newly agreed posts in the High Courts in the country; and

(b) if so, how many vacancies are filled up, so far?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Since 25th July, 2000 till Ist March, 2001, Judges/Additional Judges have been appointed in various High Courts. Appointment of Judges of the High Courts is a continuous process as vacancies arise, from time to time, in the High Courts due to retirement, resignation and elevation to the Supreme Court of India.

In accordance with the procedure for appointment of Judges of High Courts, the Chief Justice of a High Court is expected to initiate recommendation for filling up vacancies in consultation with the collegium of Judges. On the part of the Government of India, the Chief Justices of the High Courts are periodically requested to initiate proposals for appointment of Judges in respective High Courts.

Pending cases in different Courts

†1055. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crores of cases waiting justice are pending in the different courts in the country;

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.